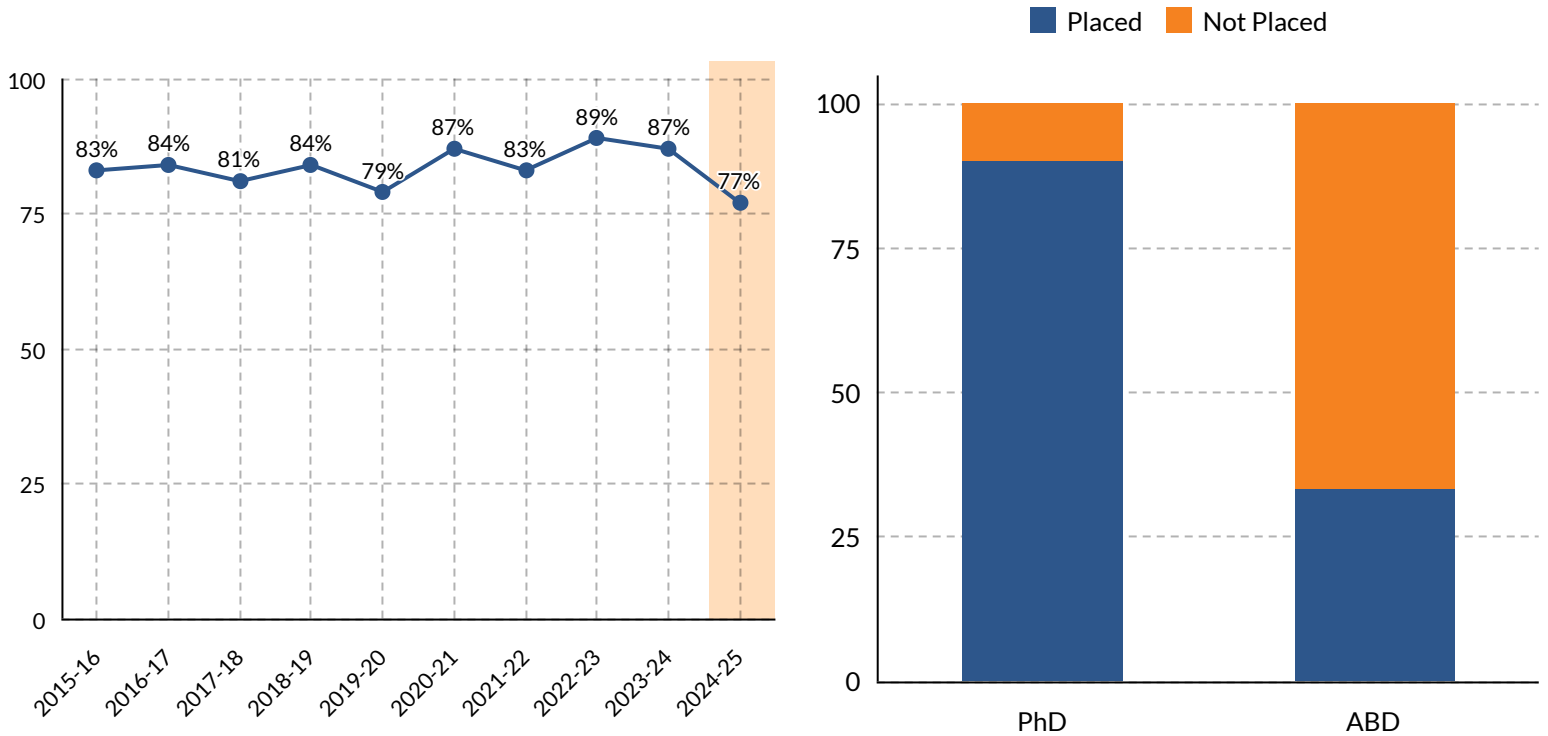


Students on the Job Market: 2024-2025 Graduate Placement Data

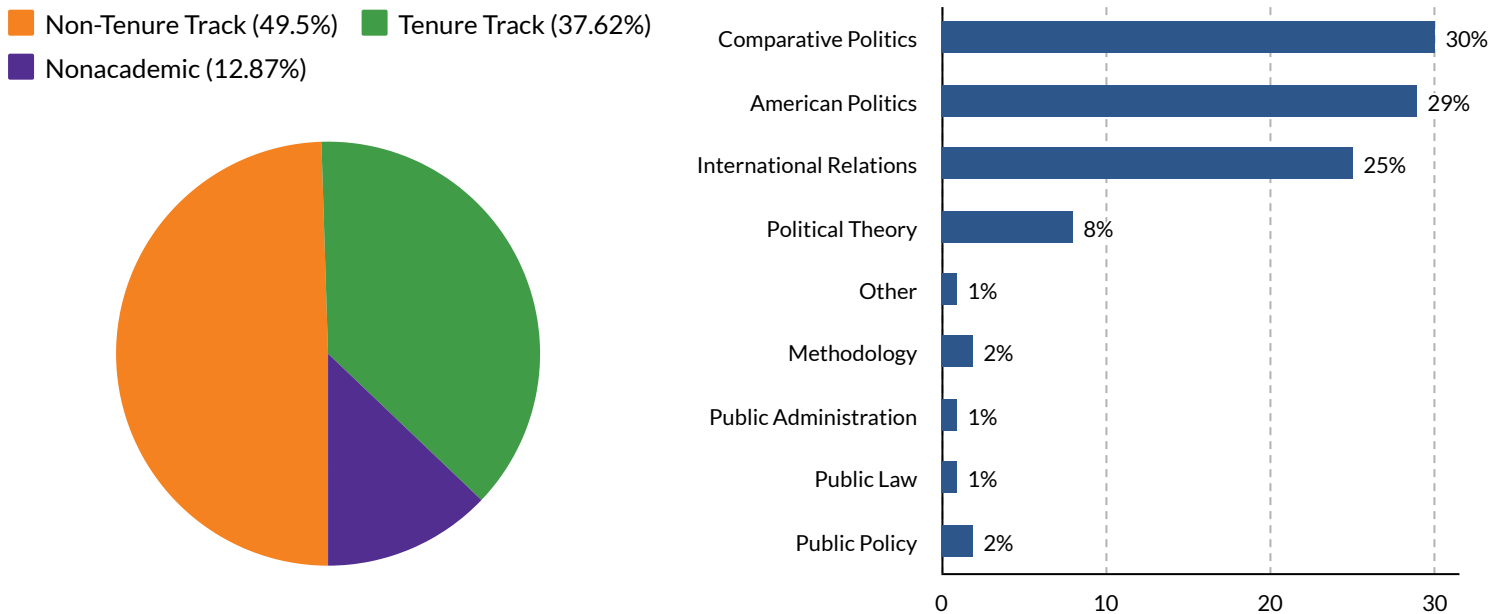
The 2024-2025 APSA Graduate Placement survey was conducted from November-December 2025. Collecting data from 31 participating institutions that provided data about 181 doctoral students on the job market, the survey gathered information about the job placements, demographics, and fields of study of doctoral students on the job market during the 2024-2025 academic year. Despite a lower overall placement rate than in previous years, broad placement trends remain the same, with candidates with PhD in hand being much more likely to successfully place and a majority of candidates specializing in American Politics, Comparative Politics, and International Relations. For any questions, please contact us at surveys@apsanet.org.

Figures 1 and 2: (1) Graduate Job Placement Rate 2016-2025, (2) 2024-2025 Placement Rates by Degree Status



77% of job candidates placed in a position in 2024-2025, a notably lower proportion than in other post-pandemic years. Graduate job candidates with PhD in hand were significantly more likely to obtain a placement than those who were All-But-Dissertation (ABD): 90% of candidates with a PhD (n=164) obtained a job placement, compared to 33% of ABD candidates (n=15).

Figures 3 and 4: Distribution of Job Placements by (3) Tenure Status and (4) Subfield



Nearly half of job candidates took a non-tenure-track position, while a little over a third took a tenure-track position. About 13% of candidates took a nonacademic position, a lower proportion than in recent years. Graduate student job candidates who obtained a job placement overwhelmingly specialized in Comparative Politics, American Politics, or International Relations.